



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FOIA Service Center

September 10, 2019

Mr. Russ Kick  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 69157  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

RE: FOIA Request No. 17-02063-F

Dear Russ Kick:

This letter is a final response to your request for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, dated June 23, 2017 and received in this office on June 27, 2017. Your request was forwarded to the appropriate office to search for documents that may be responsive to your request.

You requested the following: All documents regarding the policies, procedures, and processes for determining interest rates and capitalization for Stafford loans. The time frame for this request is January 1, 2010, to the present.

Enclosed is a CD containing 2813 pages of documents responsive to your request. The documents provided are:

➤ Email Communication and their Attachments

However, certain information has been withheld according to FOIA exemptions (b)(4), (b)(5) and (b)(6), specified below:

- Proprietary information has been withheld under exemption (b)(4) of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 of the FOIA. These provisions require us to withhold proprietary information, which, if disclosed, is likely to cause substantial competitive harm.
- Records or portions of records relating to certain intra-agency information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5) of the FOIA. This exemption permits the withholding of inter- or intra-agency information that could be withheld under civil discovery, including information subject to the deliberative process, attorney-client, or attorney-work product privileges.
- Records or portions of records relating to personal information is exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6) of the FOIA. Disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover the costs pertaining to your request. The Department has concluded that you fall within the category of "news media." However, the Department has provided you with this information at no charge. The Department's release of this information at no cost does not constitute the grant of a fee waiver, and does not infer or imply that you will be granted a fee waiver for future requests made under FOIA to the Department.

You have the right to seek assistance and/or dispute resolution services from the Department's FOIA Public Liaison or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The FOIA Public Liaison is responsible, among other duties, for assisting in the resolution of FOIA disputes. OGIS, which is outside the Department of Education, offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to appeals or litigation. They can be contacted by:

Mail	FOIA Public Liaison Office of the Executive Secretariat U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Ave., SW, LBJ 7C132 Washington, DC 20202-4500	Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road Room 2510 College Park, MD 20740-6001
E-mail	<a href="mailto:robert.wehausen@ed.gov">robert.wehausen@ed.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:OGIS@nara.gov">OGIS@nara.gov</a>
Phone	202-205-0733	301-837-1996; toll free at 1-877-684-6448
Fax	202-401-0920	301-837-0348

You have the right to appeal this decision by writing to the address below, 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Using the services described above does not affect your right or the deadline to file an appeal. Your appeal must be in writing and must include detailed statement of all legal and factual bases for the appeal; it should be accompanied by this letter, a copy of your initial letter of request, and any documentation that serves as evidence or supports the argument you wish the Department to consider in making an administrative determination on your appeal.

Appeals may be submitted using the on-line form available at  
[www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/foia/foia-appeal-form.pdf](http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/foia/foia-appeal-form.pdf).

E-mail: [EDFOIAappeals@ed.gov](mailto:EDFOIAappeals@ed.gov)  
Fax: 202-401-0920  
Mail: Appeals Office  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ 7W106A  
Washington, DC 20202-4536

Sincerely,

*Sandra Lewandowski*

Sandra Lewandowski  
Government Information Specialist  
Office of the Executive Secretariat

Enclosure